



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
P. O. Box 199
Mbabane, Swaziland

5 December 1985
MMB-5014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- November 1985

I. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. On 2 November, SAPA carried a statement by Minister of Law and Order Louis Le Grange announcing restrictions on television camera crews in unrest areas. The statement claimed camera crews had proved "to be a catalyst to further violence." Only media representatives accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs/Bureau for Information would be allowed in unrest areas. While the restrictions did not prevent all coverage, the government claimed, in fact many reports have cited police action against reporters, even in the demonstrations in Mamelodi, outside Pretoria, which is not covered by the state of emergency provisions. The impact on SABC-TV has been noticeable. While coverage of the October unrest in the Cape had been remarkably candid by RSA standards, the last unrest video shown was shown on 26 October, on demonstrations in Johannesburg. Since then announcers have essentially summarized police unrest reports with no video coverage.

2. Although some foreign journalists have criticized some South African media for timidity, the editor of the CAPE TIMES became an overnight journalistic hero by publishing on the 4th the text of an interview with banned ANC leader Oliver Tambo. The bureau requested the American Consulate in Cape Town to send by DHL the issue of the paper containing the interview and the 5-take text was filed on 7 November. Police opened a case against Heard, who declared he was ready to go to jail, but so far the case has not gone to court.

3. On the 14th, State President P. W. Botha, in a speech to the President's Council that was not carried textually on any medium, announced plans for blacks to participate in a reconstituted council. The council has in fact been on the cutting edge of the government's reform effort and has been involved in much ground-breaking planning. A report on the speech from SAPA was filed immediate in SAPA takes and short excerpts of the key elements were processed from reports on SABC-TV.

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4. During the month, ANC leader Nelson Mandela underwent a successful ~~prostate~~ operation in a hospital in Cape Town. When Mandela remained in the hospital longer than some thought necessary, rumors abounded that the government was trying to arrange a deal in order to release him. On the 21st this speculation reached a peak with the ANC issuing a statement on the conditions for his release, the government denying any knowledge, and Mandela consulting his attorneys. On the 23rd, however, SAPA reported that Mandela had been readmitted to Pollsmore Prison, and Lusaka radio reported he had refused a deal that he be released and immediately sent into exile in Zambia. Various sources have indicated that the government is still seeking a way to release him, however, and a Capital Radio report indicated the government was "signaling" the ANC for talks, which was denied.

5. Also on the 21st, Capital Radio reported that violence had flared in Mamelodi, a township outside Pretoria where a work stayaway and march were being held to protest various grievances. The march, which was led by elderly people, resulted in the death of 13. Although details were sketchy due to the absence of reporters, which prompted the Progressive Federal Party to demand a full investigation, various eyewitness accounts published in several RSA papers, and reported in the bureau's press review, stated the march had been peaceful until police had suddenly opened fire on the crowd of 50,000. The funeral for 12 of the 13 victims on 3 December was addressed by Winnie Mandela, wife of the ANC leader who is defying a government ban restricting her to a small town in the Orange Free State. Diplomatic representatives of 11 Western nations, including the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, attended the funeral.

6. On the 27th SAPA reported that various police and military vehicles were blown up by mines planted in the northern Transvaal, which prompted a stern warning from Foreign Minister Pik Botha to Zimbabwe that South Africa would carry out "hot pursuit" raids against ANC cadre if found operating from Zimbabwean soil. The ANC denied using Zimbabwe as a "launching pad" in a statement reported by Capital Radio. On the 28th SAPA reported rocket attacks against two oil facilities in Secunda, in the eastern Transvaal. These were the first major incidents reported to have taken place in rural areas. On the 29th the ANC claimed credit for the actions, but denied their cadre had entered from Zimbabwe or any other independent country.

7. Also on the 29th SAPA reported a statement by a "senior spokesman" for the Constitutional Development and Planning Ministry saying that a series of "embryo" constitutional options are being drawn up and will be presented to all leaders favoring "negotiation and peaceful change." On the 30th the STAR reported that a new constitution which "shares power with blacks in a geographical confederation" was being drafted. On 1 December the SUNDAY STAR reported that two new structures were to be set up to accommodate blacks, a confederate structure for blacks in the homelands and a federal structure for all other blacks, which would include black "city states" such as Soweto.

B. Lateral Services

1. At the request of Tim Carney, political officer in Pretoria, the report on Nelson Mandela's return to Pollsmore Prison was refiled to Dakar and Lusaka for Assistant Secretary Crocker.

2. The bureau alerted DCM Gerald Scott to two items; South African reports on unannounced talks between Swazi Prime Minister Bhekimpi and RSA President P. W. Botha and a SAPA item reporting an impending shakeup in the Swazi cabinet, which has been long rumored but is yet to be announced.

II. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Monitors [redacted] all received PSI's during the month.

2. The bureau tested several candidates for the vacant Portuguese monitor position and has offered the job to [redacted] who is

[redacted] is registered as a sworn Portuguese/English/Portuguese translator with the Supreme Court of South Africa and scored extremely high on her test. Assuming she passes her security and medical clearances, she will be the only local hire in the Portuguese section.

B. Buildings and Grounds

Roof repairs were completed at the editor's residence with rafters and other defective wooden beams replaced. Renovations were also completed to the bureau's electronics shop, adding more than 600 cubic feet of storage space.

At the remote antenna site, work was begun on an extension to the existing operations building to house an emergency generator. Completion is estimated for mid-December.

A newly modified dual tape reader was installed in the communications center where its automatic message numbering features has greatly improved tape transmission.

III. VISITS

From The Bureau

The bureau chief returned from two weeks' R&R on the 1st, having scaled mountain tops in Rwanda, accompanied by [redacted] in search of the elusive mountain gorilla. Undeterred by romping apes, she proceeded to northern Zimbabwe for a 5-day canoe trip down the croc and hippo-infested Zambezi River. Appropriately armed with pail and paddle, she accepted the Livingston award for survival at the conclusion of the trip.

[redacted]
Chief, Swaziland Bureau

SWAZILAND BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH	:	392,500
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH	:	14,290
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH	:	1,029

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	5,605	8,040	95
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)	148,450	177,540	66,510

ANGOLA

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese	13,770		
Luanda ANGOP in English		830	
Luanda ANGOP in French		4,130	
Luanda ANGOP in Spanish		700	

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Domestic Service in English	5,960		
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English			

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe	2,260		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	1,140		
(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola			
(Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern & Central Africa		1,180	
(Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern & Central Africa		160	
(Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern & Central Africa		160	
(Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola			

LESOTHO

Maseru Domestic Service in English	2,540		
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho			

BR J-	PRESS	PUBLI-
CASTS	AGENCIES	CATIONS

LESOTHO

Maseru THE NATION in
English
Maseru THE COMMET in
English and
Maseru MOCHOCHONOCHO in
Sesotho

MADAGASCAR

Antananarivo Domestic Service in
French

MALAWI

Blantyre Domestic Service in
English
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in
English
Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in
English

370

MAURITIUS

Port Louis Domestic Service in
English
Port Louis Domestic Service in
French

MOCAMBIQUE

Maputo Domestic Service in
Portuguese
Maputo in
English to Southern Africa
Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in
Portuguese
Maputo NOTICIAS in
Portuguese
Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese

14,460

1,310

NAMIBIA

Windhoek Domestic Service in
Afrikaans
Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in
Afrikaans
Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in
English
Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in
English
Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in
Afrikaans

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICA- TIONS
SOUTH AFRICA			
Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans	1,700		
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	22,330		
Johannesburg International Service in English	9,990		
Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans	11,140		
Johannesburg Television Service in English	9,720		
Umtata Capital Radio in English	13,110		
Johannesburg SAPA in English		170,540	
Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English*			4,610
Durban ILANGA in Zulu			
Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans			
Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English			
Johannesburg O'SECULO in Portuguese			
Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans			
Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English			410
Johannesburg SOWETAN in English			
Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English			1,400
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English			950
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English			420
Johannesburg THE STAR in English			870
Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English			
Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans			
RSA Press Review			54,410
SWAZILAND			
Mbabane Domestic Service in English	1,080		
Mbabane Domestic Service in Siswati	660		

BROAD-
ASTSPRESS
AGENCIESPUBLICA-
TIONS

SWAZILAND

Mbabane Television Service in English	120	
Mbabane Television Service in Siswati		
Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English		230
Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English		270
Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English		200

UNITED KINGDOM

London BBC World Service in English	22,090
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USSR

Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe	
Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa	4,710

ZAMBIA

Lusaka Domestic Service in English	3,130	
Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English	400	
Lusaka Radio Freedom in English to Southern Africa		
Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English		450
Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English		1,470
Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English		

ZIMBABWE

Harare Domestic Service in English	6,300	
Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele		
Harare Voice of Namibia in English		
Harare THE HERALD in English		
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English		820
Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English		